

# Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/500,583

Examiner

Nahid Amiri

Applicant(s)

WEBJORN, JAN

Art Unit

3679

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment filed on 11 October 2006 and a telephone interview on 11 January 2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-8 and 10-14.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
    1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

## Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date 22060912; 20070110.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_.

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114***

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 10/11/2006 has been entered.

### ***Drawings***

The drawing was received on 11 October 2006. This drawing is acceptable.

## **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Lawrence A. Hoffman on January 11, 2007.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 1, line 7, "at least a portion" has been changed to --at least one portion--; lines 8, 11 and 12 "at least the portion" has been changed to --at least one portion--; line 12, "meet" has been changed to --are located on--.

Claim 11, line 7, "at least a portion" has been changed to --at least one portion--; lines 8-9, 10 and 11 "at least the portion" has been changed to --at least one portion--; and line 11, "meeting" has been changed to --are located on--.

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DPS  
Specification, Page 7, line 5, deleted "and"; Page 7, line 7, after "scale" added - - and - -  
Page 7, after line 7, added- - Fig. 3 shows a flanged end with varying concavity or radius of curvature. --.

DPS  
Specification, Page 8, after line 4, add the following paragraph - - The concavity of surface 10 in Fig. 2, i.e., the radius of curvature, is substantially constant. In the alternative, surface 10 may have a varying radius of curvature, as illustrated in Fig. 3. Here,  $R_1, R_2 \dots R_n$  need not be equal. --.

### *Allowable Subject Matter*

Claims 1-8 and 10-14 are allowed.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

With respect to claims 1-8 and 10-14, the prior art of record does not show or suggest that at least one portion of the first end surface of the flanged member in an unstressed condition is concave in a radial direction, such that the at least the portion of the first end surface is curved and defined by a concave curve function and a proximal point on the at least the portion of the first end surface and a distal point of the at least one portion of the first end surface are located on a plane inclined in the radial direction of the flanged member (claims 1 and 11, lines 7-12). Buono (US 2,940,779) only teaches a flange member in unstressed condition having a first end portion is formed from multiple linear lines, and there is no reason to combine Buono (US 2,940,779) with other prior art of record


### *Conclusion*

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nahid Amiri whose telephone number is (571) 272-8113. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-5:30. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Daniel P. Stodola can be reached on (571) 272-

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7087. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Nahid Amiri  
Examiner  
Art Unit 3679  
January 11, 2007



DANIEL P. STODOLA  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600



New Sheet

New sheet  
of drawings  
Approved  
1/18/07  
DPS

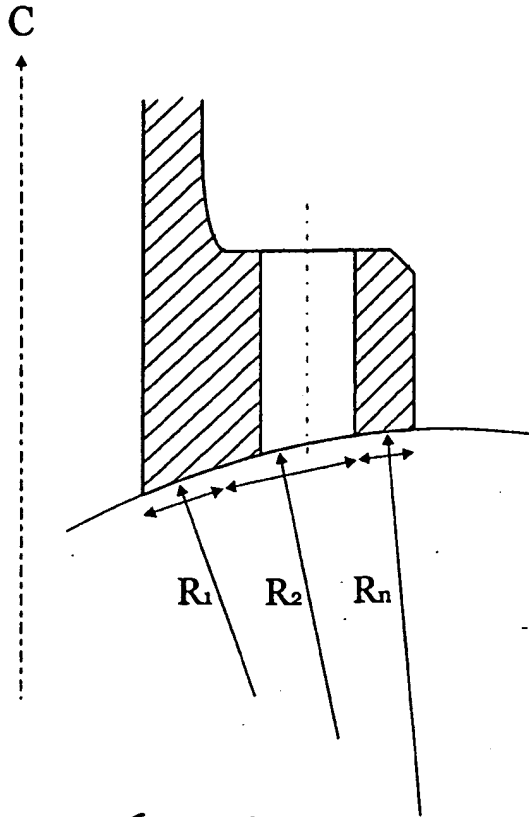


Fig. 3